

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN SA 02402 162222Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 MCT-01 SY-05
/070 W

-----117995 181040Z /23

R 162144Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8064
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN SALVADOR 2402

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, SHUM, ES

SUBJ: ERP MACHINE-GUNS SUPREME COURT BUILDING

1. THREE PERSON PLACED FLAG OF THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMY OF THE PEOPLE (ERP) NEAR ENTRANCE SUPREME COURT BUILDING OF EL SALVADOR 5:45 A.M. MAY 15. THEY THEN SPRAYED FRONT OF BUILDING WITH AUTOMATIC RIFLE FIRE, BREAKING NUMEROUS WINDOWS AND CAUSING SOME DAMAGE TO FURNITURE AND FILES INSIDE BUILDING. BULLETS IN BUILDING INDICATE WEAPONS USED WERE G-3 AUTOMATIC RIFLES WHICH ARE USED BY GOES MILITARY AND SECURITY FORCES. TWO WATCHMEN, WHO WERE ONLY PERSONS IN BUILDING AT TIME, NOT INJURED. THREE ERP MEMBERS THEN DEPARTED SCENE IN WAITING TAXI.

2. LATER SAME AFTERNOON ERP ISSUED COMMUNIQUE CONFIRMING FACT THAT THEY CARRIED OUT ATTACK AND STATED IT WAS AN EXPRESSION OF THEIR HATRED FOR CORRUPT, INEFFICIENT, AND PREJUDICED JUDICIAL SYSTEM
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IN EL SALVADOR. STATEMENT ADDED THAT IT WAS ALSO FURTHER PROTEST AGAINST CONTROVERSIAL LAW OF DEFENSE AND GUARANTEE OF PUBLIC ORDER.

3. COMMENT. INTERESTINGLY, BUT NOT NECESSARILY RELATED, ARCHBISHOP ROMERO DEVOTED MAJORITY OF HIS SUNDAY, MAY 14 SERMON TO INADEQUACIES OF EL SALVADOR'S JUDICIAL SYSTEM

IN GENERAL, AND SUPREME COURT IN PARTICULAR.
DEVINE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 16 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Expiration:
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From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, PINS, SHUM, ES
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